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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/684,632	KRUGER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel C Crane	3725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application:
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS

The following obvious errors in Claim 2 have been corrected. The change from "a" to "said" in the claim at the below locations is made in light of the fact that claim 1 already refers to these parts of the claimed elements.

2. (Currently Amended) The machine for hot stretch forming of sheet material as recited in claim 1 comprising a said second rotatable shaft aligned with the rotational axis of said first shaft, the second shaft having a said first end for rotational coupling to said first end of said first shaft, and a said second end.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: One reason for allowance is that the prior art of record does not show a machine for hot stretch forming sheet material where at least two opposing tool members grip edges of the workpiece with one tool member having a forming surface and the other member having a walled surface for pressurized gas and having a mechanical sheet material forming tool that is actuated by a first and second

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rotatable shafts, each having first ends supported and coupled for rotation in the wall of the wall chamber with a housing enclosing the coupling and having a pressure seal for the pressurized chamber. Hulsberg is not directed to a machine for forming sheet material but does show a shaft 14 mounted within the tool 3 having a forming surface, the shaft having a mechanical tube forming tool. The shaft 14 is not constructed as a first and second rotatable shafts coupled together with rotation of the first rotatable shaft actuating the mechanical tube forming tool. Similarly, Anderson and Mueller are both directed to machines for shaping tubing, which would not lend them to sheet material forming. Kleber shows a sheet material forming machine where rotatable shafts 40, 50 are mounted within the two opposing tool members. The rotatable shafts are not coupled together at their ends within a housing by a pressure seal with one end of the first rotatable shaft rotatably supported in the wall of one of the tools. Cadwell does not show a first rotatable shaft coupled to a second rotatable shaft. Cadwell shows only a rotatable shaft 50 rotatably mounting a mechanical sheet material forming tool 48. Further, Cadwell does not show that the first rotatable shaft is supported for rotation in the wall of the walled chamber for the pressurized gas.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


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INQUIRIES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner D. Crane whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4516**. The examiner's office hours are 6:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mr. Derris Banks, can be reached at **(571) 272-4419**.

Documents related to the instant application may be submitted directly by facsimile transmission at all times. The Examiner's Fax number is **(571) 273-4516**. Applicant(s) is(are) reminded to clearly mark any transmission as "DRAFT" if it is **not** to be considered as an official response. The Office Facsimile Center number is **(703) 872-9306**.

DCCrane
April 1, 2005



Daniel C. Crane
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 3725